



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 19, 2009

MAYOR JERRY SANDERS FACT SHEET

MAYOR SHOWCASES WATER CONSERVATION SUCCESS FOR HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS

City Water Department Incentives Help Presidio Place HOA Save Water With Substantial Cuts in Outdoor Irrigation

Mayor Jerry Sanders is continuing his call for greater water conservation by showcasing the success of the Presidio Place Homeowners Association. Presidio Place took advantage of a City-managed incentive program to reduce the amount of water used for outdoor irrigation by more than 15%. The Mayor has offered his congratulations to the Presidio Place HOA Board of Directors and is asking other multi-family complexes to follow their lead.

“All of us need to learn from the success of Presidio Place. This Association understands the need for conservation and took action to reduce their outdoor water consumption. San Diego water supplies are facing extraordinary pressure from the continuing drought, environmental concerns and judicial decisions. All of these have contributed to the water emergency that may soon require more stringent restrictions on how all of us use water. We must learn from water conservation success stories like Presidio Place and realize there is still more to accomplish in preserving and protecting our water supplies.”

Mayor Jerry Sanders

CITY WORKING TO INCREASE CONSERVATION BY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS

The City of San Diego is working with homeowners associations served by the Water Department to improve conservation efforts at every opportunity. The City offers a wide variety

of resources for HOA Boards of Directors and to individual homeowners living in multi-family complexes.

Commercial Landscape Water Surveys:

The City offers landscape water use surveys to commercial and multi-family customers. By participating in the Commercial Landscape Survey Program, customers get an assessment of their current landscaping and irrigation, their current water usage, how much water their current landscape really needs, and consequently, the amount of water they could be saving by just irrigating appropriately. Water Department staff will also recommend ways to improve the efficiency of irrigation systems and suggest changes to landscape materials to achieve even more savings. Surveys can be scheduled by calling (619) 570-1999.

Incentives for Water Saving Devices:

In addition to the Commercial Landscape Survey Program, commercial landscape customers and HOAs can work with the Water Department to receive financial incentives offered for upgrading irrigation devices. The City provides incentives for “smart” irrigation controllers, pressure compensating valves, rotating nozzles and other irrigation fixtures through the Commercial Landscape Incentive Program and the Water Savings Performance Program. Those interested in the incentives can learn more or apply for the incentives via the City’s website at www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation or at www.20gallonchallenge.com, the website hosted by the San Diego County Water Authority.

Water Conservation Classes for HOA Representatives:

The City is currently scheduling water conservation education sessions for HOA representatives and other customers interested in getting details about cutting water use. The classes help explain the various water conservation services and incentives available along with information about landscape retrofits. Currently, the City is accepting contact information for future classes. Those interested in signing up to be contacted once the March class schedule is set may call the City’s Water Department at (619) 570-1999.

Independent Industry Efforts:

The City acknowledges and supports the work of independent organizations interested in helping HOAs implement water saving programs. The City encourages HOA Board Members and landscape contractors working with multi-family complexes to contact the Water Conservation Action Committee at 619-533-5258 or the Community Association Institute (CAI) and the California Association of Community Managers to learn more about their water conservation education efforts.

WATER EMERGENCY INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

Information about the water emergency facing the City can be found at the new website, www.sandiego.gov/wateremergency.